1944 WATER TREATY
COLORADO RIVER

- U.S. to deliver to Mexico a volume of 1.5 maf/year
- When there are surplus waters, Mexico may receive an additional 200 kaf
- In extraordinary drought, Mexico reduced in proportion to U.S.
- Treaty does not define extraordinary drought
- U.S. has always met its delivery obligation
COLORADO RIVER
JOINT COOPERATIVE PROCESS

- 7 U.S. Basin States & 2 federal governments asked IBWC to convene stakeholders.
- 4 Work Groups established in 2008

Mexico diverts most of its Colorado River allotment at Morelos Dam.
Minute No. 318 (2010) allowed Mx to store water in the US until it could fix earthquake damage.

Min. 319 signed in 2012 as a 5-year pilot project for Colorado River cooperation.

Min. 323, signed Sept. 2017 expands and extends Min. 319 actions through 2026.

Min. 319 signing in San Diego, CA as Interior Secretary Salazar looks on.
Established multiple work groups with 200 members:

- Minute Oversight Group
- Hydrology
- Projects
- Desalination
- Salinity
- Flow Variability
- Environment
- All-American Canal
- System Operations

U.S. work group members include federal, state, NGO, water utility, academic, & irrigation district partners
Mexico’s Water Reserve

- Allows Mexico to defer water delivery due to earthquakes, emergencies, or conservation
- Water available for subsequent delivery to Mexico
- Gives Mexico flexibility in water management

Under previous Minutes, Mexico deferred deliveries after an earthquake damaged canals.
Mexico’s Water Reserve

- Mexican storage under Minutes 318 and 319 boosted Lake Mead elevation by 2-3 feet, helping to prevent mandatory cuts in the Lower Basin
- Boosts Lake Mead elevation to benefit all users

Mexico has undertaken canal lining and other projects to conserve water
MIN. 323 – WATER SHARING

- Provides additional Colorado River water to Mexico during high elevation reservoir conditions

Hoover Dam
Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan

- Requires water savings earlier to shore up drought-affected reservoirs
- Commitment to reduce water orders at certain reservoir elevations
- Water savings could be delivered in the future when reservoirs refill
- Based on elements of U.S. Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Projected Jan. 1 Lake Mead elevation</th>
<th>Mexico’s Savings BWSCP</th>
<th>U.S. Savings DCP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At or below 1090 &amp; &gt; 1075</td>
<td>41,000 acre-feet</td>
<td>200,000 acre-feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At or below 1075 &amp; &gt; 1050</td>
<td>30,000 acre-feet</td>
<td>200,000 acre-feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At or below 1050 &amp; &gt; 1045</td>
<td>34,000 acre-feet</td>
<td>200,000 acre-feet</td>
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<tr>
<td>At or below 1045 &amp; &gt; 1040</td>
<td>76,000 acre-feet</td>
<td>450,000 acre-feet</td>
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<tr>
<td>At or below 1040 &amp; &gt; 1035</td>
<td>84,000 acre-feet</td>
<td>500,000 acre-feet</td>
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<tr>
<td>At or below 1035 &amp; &gt; 1030</td>
<td>92,000 acre-feet</td>
<td>550,000 acre-feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At or below 1030 &amp; &gt; 1025</td>
<td>101,000 acre-feet</td>
<td>600,000 acre-feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At or below 1025</td>
<td>150,000 acre-feet</td>
<td>600,000 acre-feet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MIN. 323 - SHORTAGE SHARING

- Principle that when one country is in shortage, the other country should be in shortage
- Annual reductions to Mexico based on 3 low elevation tiers at Lake Mead
- Mexico may use its stored water to offset shortage, subject to limitations.

Lake Mead at Hoover Dam
Dec. 2015
## MIN. 323 - SHORTAGE SHARING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Projected Jan. 1 Lake Mead elevation</th>
<th>Mexico’s Shortage Reduction</th>
<th>U.S. Lower Basin Reduction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At or below 1075 and at or above 1050</td>
<td>50,000 acre-feet</td>
<td>330,000 acre-feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 1050 and at or above 1025</td>
<td>70,000 acre-feet</td>
<td>417,000 acre-feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 1025</td>
<td>125,000 acre-feet</td>
<td>500,000 acre-feet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hydrology Work Group

- Technical experts from both countries
- Data exchange, modeling, and analysis
- Analyze the impact on reservoir levels from meeting system demands, drought, increased temperatures, etc.

Colorado River at Southerly International Boundary
$31.5 M from US for projects in Mexico

Mexico derives long-term benefits from waters conserved from U.S. investment

109 kaf for U.S. water agencies, 70 kaf for environment, and 50 kaf for system storage

Consideration of future new water sources projects

U.S. entities to fund projects like canal lining.
DROUGHT MANAGEMENT

BENEFITS OF MIN. 323

- Provides certainty for water planning, esp. in shortage
- Storing Mexico’s water in US boosts Lake Mead elevation
- Cooperation and transparency benefit all parties
- Avoids conflict